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# Endowed Professorship from Dr. Vern Buehler Will Be Held By Dr. Chris Fawson

## Two Key Huntsman Leaders From Different Eras Are Linked By Professorship

Dr. Chris Fawson, credited with playing a key role in the recent progress of the Huntsman School of Business, will now hold a professorship endowed by a professor who helped shape the direction of the school 40 years ago, Dr. Vern Buehler.

Dr. Fawson has been named to the Dr. Vernon Maughan Buehler and MaRee C. Buehler Endowed Professorship. Dr. Fawson guided the school's successful international programs until he left on a sabbatical leave to work for the Charles Koch Foundation in Washington, D.C., in 2011. Dr. Buehler played a key role in getting the Partners In Business program off the ground and helped launch what is now called the Shingo Prize for Operational Excellence.

At a faculty retreat held on campus in August 2011, Dean Douglas D. Anderson made the announcement, praising the role that Dr. Fawson has had in moving the school forward in recent years. The dean has also paid tribute to Dr. Buehler's contributions.

"In the history of the College of Business no one has left a greater legacy than Vern Buehler," he said.

The Partners In Business program has attracted great presenters over the years, including Milton Friedman, Peter Drucker, Alan Greenspan, W. Edwards Deming, and Shigeo Shingo. Dr. Buehler was recognized for his contributions to the Shingo Prize for Operational Excellence when he was inducted into the Shingo Academy in 2008.

Dr. Buehler also funded endowments in the Partners in Business program and scholarship endowments at the Huntsman School of Business. He received a prestigious university-wide honor when he was presented with the 2007 Spirit of Old Main Award.

Dr. Buehler was pleased that the professorship he created would be going to Dr. Fawson. "I'm very flattered that they honored me by putting it (the professorship) in the hands of a doer," he said.

Dr. Buehler is now living in Logan at Sunshine Terrace in a building that is named after him and his late wife, MaRee. At age 93 he still exercises 90-minutes a day, and said he has been blessed with "race horse ankles" and good fortune.

Dr. Fawson said he was "deeply honored" when he found out he would be getting the professorship.

"I've known Vern personally, and I've worked with him on international projects," Dr. Fawson said. "He's just such a peaceful, passionate, dedicated professional. Whenever you are in the presence of Vern, you just feel like it's a special experience because he's such a great man."